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BEFORE THE POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001 RECEIVED

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Docket No. MC98-1

NOTICE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF THE FILING OF A REQUEST FOR A MARKET TEST AND EXPERIMENTAL MAILING ONLINE SERVICE TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.67 THROUGH 3001.67d AND 3001.161 THROUGH 3001.166

Pursuant to Rule 163(d) of the Postal Rate Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 39 C.F.R. § 3001.163(d), the Postal Service hereby gives notice that it has this day filed a Request for a Recommended Decision on a Market Test Classification and Fee Schedule, and a Recommended Decision on an Experimental Classification and Fee Schedule, for Mailing Online Service. The Request seeks recommendations favoring the establishment of a market test under Rules 161-166 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.161 - .166. The Request also invokes the Commission's rules for experimental services, 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.67 - .67d.

This proposal would create classification and fee provisions for market test and experimental versions of mailing online service. The proposed service would enable the Postal Service to offer customers the option of initiating the entry of mail from a personal computer with internet access.

Fees would vary according to options selected by customers, with mail entered in existing rate categories. The service has been designed to cover its costs and make reasonable contributions to institutional costs.

Interested persons should be aware that the Postal Service is asking the Commission to recommend market test Mailing Online service so that it can be

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implemented as soon as September 1998, and to recommend experimental Mailing Online Service by the end of November in anticipation that the experiment may supplant the market test in January 1999.

Pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3001.163(b), persons interested in participating in the Postal Rate Commission proceeding to consider the Request may intervene formally by filing a notice pursuant 39 C.F.R. § 3001.20 within 28 days of the date indicated below, i.e., through August 12, 1998. Additional information, as well as copies of the Request and supporting materials, may be obtained through the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

Kenneth N. Hollies

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Room 6536 Washington, D.C. 20260-1137 July 15, 1998

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the rules of practice and in accordance with section 163(d) of the rules of practice.

Kenneth N. Hollies